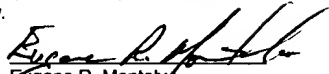


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Eugene R. Montalvo
Date: April 15, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of)

Ronald M. Bass et al.)

Serial No. 09/910,696)

Filed July 20, 2001)

ANNULUS FOR ELECTRICITY HEATED PIPE-IN-
PIPE SUBSEA PIPELINE)

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner F. Tsay

April 15, 2004

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, DC 20231

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED 15 MARCH 2004

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicants originally filed a Response to the Office Action on 31 March 2004. On 15 April 2004, Attorney received a telephone call from Examiner Bagnell indicating that the USPTO had received a response for an application that had already issued. After reviewing docket number information, Attorney and Examiner Bagnell were able to determine that Response incorrectly identified the pending case. Attorney is submitting this Supplemental Response to the Office Action Mailed 15 March 2004 in order to make the record clear as to the Response. The responses are identical. Attorney wishes to thank Examiner Bagnell for his assistance in this matter.

Attorney for Applicants in the above captioned application hereby responds to the Office Action mailed 15 March 2004. At the time the Office Action issued, claims 1 – 32 were pending. The Office Action allowed claims 1, 6 – 7, 30 and 31. Claims 2 – 5, 29 and 32 were objected to. Claim 28 was rejected.